ALL ABOARD

With G. E. Mortimore

TORONTO—This lakeshore metropolis of 1,500,000 people has been described as Canada's only national city. Montreal might brush aside the claim with amused contempt.

All the same, there are numbers of Toronto tycoons sitting in caverns of finance above Bay Street who can pull strings and set men dancing from coast to coast.

Lift the lid off a Toronto office building and you will find at least one man sticking colored pins all over a map of Canada.

This big, dynamic, exciting town can also call itself the publishing and entertainment capital of Canada. But despite all the power, brains and creative talent gathered within the limits of the city and the 12 municipalities that are leagued with it in a metropolitan government, Toronto has a remarkable flair for tripping over its own feet.

For example, its subway seems to the observer to be a swift and well-run operation, as far as the wheeled traffic is concerned.

But the two-legged traffic is a mess. People hurry down the passages, steps and escalators in higgledy-piggledy mobs, bumping, elbowing and panting.

They Won't Keep to Right

They are fairly polite, compared to their ruthless counterparts of the New York subway. But their cousins across the Atlantic in the London Underground could teach them a lot.

Toronto subway crowds never seem to have grasped the principle of keeping to the right.

London underground has one-way passages and "Keep Right" signs. "Why doesn't Toronto do the same?" I asked a few Toronto citizens.

"People here don't like being ordered around," I was informed.

And yet, by steering a reasonable course through the pedestrian corridors of the subway, Torontonians could save an enormous amount of energy which they might use to hoist martinis or push home knives between their colleague's ribs.

Why is it that the people who are smart enough to manage a large share of business and the arts in Canada lack the gumption to keep to the right?

Municipal politics in Toronto are a melodrama of name-calling and intrigue. The individual municipalities that are linked together under the metropolitan super-government have power to spend roughly as they please for current expenses, but must generally obtain Metro authority for all capital expenses.

Stout, Pickwickian Figure

Supermayor Fred Gardiner (chairman of the Metro Council) a stout, Pickwickian figure, is often publicly at odds with white-haired Mayor Nathan Phillips of Toronto.

Lately Mr. Gardiner and a group of councillors from outer municipalities have attacked Toronto's plan for a $25,500,000 city hall, to be built on an oyster-shaped plan chosen by international competition.

If "Metro" is to rent space in the building (according to the original plan) then the hall should be built in a more central location, rather than at downtown Queen and Bay. So the critics argue. Toronto's local politics are lively, high-powered and tricky. They are a gift to the city's newspapers. I can't claim to know much about them. That would take a year or so.

To a casual observer, it seems that Toronto city fathers, like subway riders, could get along better if they could keep to the right, and avoid bumping head-on into each other so often.

Sometimes the rulers of a big town can be almost as narrow and pettifogging as their brothers of the small town. But, looking at them side by side, the big-town boys are a lot more entertaining to watch.

Patients Play Crib in Comfort

Designed for the handicapped, this special cribbage table is the brainchild of Gerry Girard, 2616 Doncaster, second from left. He scribbled original plans on wrapping paper while a patient in Veterans' Hospital. He patented the design, which has extra large pegs and fits snugly between two hospital beds, and has supplied six of the tables purchased by the Women's Auxiliary of Veterans' Hospital for patients' use. Nurse June Johnson and Mrs. G. F. Homer, WA vice-president, look on while Mr. Girard plays a game of crib with patients Ian Mawdsley, V. L. Walker, Frank Blakemore.

Ark Royal Damaged

U.K.'s Atom Age Super Carrier Swept by Fire

PLYMOUTH, England (UPI) — Oil-fed flames yesterday swept through the heart of Britain's mightiest man of war — the atomic-age aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal.

Hundreds of workmen below deck in the drydocked carrier escaped the clouds of oily smoke that swept the corridors of the $60,000,000 flat-top, but eight workmen and four enlisted men suffered smoke inhalation during the battle to douse the flames.

Firemen wearing gas masks crawled down slippery below-deck ladders to snatch to safety nine workmen trapped near the smoke-filled boiler room where the trouble began.

FIVE-HOUR FIRE

Plymouth Fire Chief George Drury reported the fire was snuffed out more than five hours after it began.

"Damage is very severe," Drury said, but navy officials said they were not yet able to determine the exact amount of damage.

Drury said about a dozen workmen were saved by a docksid crane operator. The men, trapped in a compartment below deck, called for help from a porthole.

CRANE PLUCKED

The crane operator swung his giant vehicle into position and plucked a gangplank from its normal position, then deposited it in a position where the trapped workers could use it as a bridge to safety.

"There were no aircraft aboard and no ammunition," an Admiralty spokesman said.

Minutes before the fire broke out, the Admiralty had proudly announced the carrier was being given further atomic-age equipment.

COMPLETION DUE

A spokesman said the refitting job the carrier was undergoing was to have been completed "at the end of the year. Now I don't know how long the big ship will be out."

The Ark Royal was tied up here for routine maintenance. The 43,000-ton flat-top was completed in February, 1955, but later was reconverted.

Besides steam catapults and the angled deck needed for naval A-bombers, Ark Royal is fitted with a remote control system internal television, and equipment for automatic decontamination in event of nuclear attack.

Bootleggers On the Spot In Wet Vote

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—Oklahoma bootleggers—faced with economic obsolescence—are wondering what to do about all the liquor they have on hand.

"We've got to be able to have it all sold the day stores open," said one bootlegger.

"Big Mac" McCarthy, who calls himself "king of the bootleggers," said, "I'm glad the state went wet. I've been sick of this grind for a long time."

Canada 'Flexible' In Foreign Policy

HALIFAX (UPI) — Marcus Long, University of Toronto philosophy professor and a nationally-known foreign affairs commentator, says Canada is "the most flexible country in the world" where foreign policy is concerned.

He added that Canada "is not yet frozen into rigid patterns of doctrine nor shackled by tradition."

VOGUE PAPERS BURN EVENLY

ALSO AVAILABLE IN STRIPS

City Labor at Mackay's Home

Calgary Gave Mayor 50 Per Cent Discount

Pillar of Pennies

There are about 18,000 pennies stacked in that ceiling-high pile in the home of Mrs. Winifred Pradier in London, England. The coins are all pennies which date from the reign of Queen Victoria. Mrs. Pradier dips each one in stout to make them sticky and she's going to give the money to Cancer Research Fund.

CALGARY (CP)—The parks department in 1956 billed Mayor Don Mackay for 31 hours of work for a job at the mayor's home which involved 72 hours of city labor, the Turcotte inquiry into civic administration was told Wednesday.

The inquiry is looking into Mayor Mackay's business dealings with the city.

BASEMENT TALKS

Judge L. S. Turcotte asked that further information be supplied on how city commissioners conduct business. He wanted to know whether city business can be conducted during the course of a "casual conversation in the basement of city hall."

W. A. McGillivray, counsel for the city, said the incorrect billing of a 1956 account to the mayor was discovered by city auditors in 1958, and that a further account was rendered.

Morris Barraclough, administrative assistant in charge of accounting in the parks department for the last five years, said he issued the original bill on the instructions of parks superintendent Alex Munro.

KNEW AT TIME

He said he knew at the time the job at the mayor's home involved 72 hours of parks department labor and not 31 hours listed in the account.

Mr. Barraclough produced a list of accounts receivable which, he said, were not entered in the city's books until they were paid. He said the list had not been drawn to the attention of the city auditor until September, 1958.

Tired Blood Or Fright?

FAIRMONT, Minn. (AP)—It was KSUM official Roger Hough's own idea to do a live report from the Red Cross bloodmobile.

As a nurse got him ready to donate a pint of blood, Hough began broadcasting to his listeners, telling them there was nothing to it.

"Everything's all right," he said. "I . . . ah . . ." Hough passed out.

The Weather

April 10, 1959

A few clouds, increasing towards evening. Not quite so warm. Winds northeast 15. Precipitation Thursday, nil. Sunshine 11 hours 54 minutes.

Recorded Temperatures

High 68 Low 45

Forecast Temperatures

High 63 Low 42

Sunrise 5.35 Sunset 6.57

East Coast of Vancouver Island—A few clouds, increasing towards evening. Not quite so warm. Winds light. High and low at Nanaimo, 65 and 40.

West Coast of Vancouver Island—A few clouds, becoming cloudy by evening. Not quite so warm. Winds light southeast. High and low at Estevan Point, 55 and 40.

TEMPERATURES

	Min.	Max.	Pre.
St. John's	30	40	.01
Halifax	37	54	--
Montreal	35	43	.01
Ottawa	33	45	.04
Toronto	35	44	.17
North Bay	25	34	.05
Port Arthur	21	37	--
Kenora	17	35	--
Winnipeg	21	35	--
Brandon	20	33	--
Regina	12	38	--
Saskatoon	27	46	--
Prince Albert	25	43	--
North Battleford	22	48	--
Swift Current	18	42	--
Medicine Hat	22	50	--
Lethbridge	25	50	--
Calgary	31	54	--
Edmonton	32	57	--
Kimberley	24	57	--
Crescent Valley	22	61	--
Grand Forks	25	64	--
Kamloops	26	67	--
Penticton	26	65	--
Vancouver	37	64	--
Prince Rupert	37	67	--
Prince George	23	60	--
Whitehorse	35	52	--
Seattle	48	73	--
Portland	50	73	--
San Francisco	46	70	--
Los Angeles	50	71	--
Spokane	28	58	--
Chicago	35	44	.07
New York	47	69	--

Ship Calendar

NAVY

New Glasgow returns at noon today. Sussexvale, Beacon Hill, Antigonish and Ste. Therese on Venture cruise, return 10.30 a.m. May 1.

MERCHANT

Victoria—Aliki Livanos in drydock.
Chemainus—Ulysses II.
Nanaimo—Avisbay.
Alberni—Archandros and Stan Malta.
Tahsis—Friesland.

Today's Events

B.C. Government Photographic Division will show pictures of the Deas Island Tunnel to Victoria Lions Club meeting at noon in Empress Hotel . . . Regular meeting of the Federal Superannuates, 2 p.m., YWCA rooms.

TIDES AT VICTORIA (Pacific Standard Time)

	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.
10	03.19	7.9	10.32	2.9	18.51	6.9	22.16	6.3
11	03.38	7.9	11.10	2.7	20.16	7.0	23.47	6.7
12	03.56	7.8	11.51	2.7	21.18	7.3	23.20	7.0
13	03.54	7.	12.34	2.9	22.16	7.4	23.56	7.3
14	03.36	7.7	13.20	2.9	23.05	7.3	.....	.....
15	00.39	7.2	03.22	7.5	14.11	3.0	23.44	7.4
16	02.02	7.3	03.10	7.4	15.06	3.2	.....	.....
17	00.05	7.4	16.05	3.4	.....	.....	.....	.....
18	00.08	7.4	05.58	6.4	09.45	6.6	17.02	3.7
19	00.12	7.6	06.22	5.6	11.21	6.7	17.56	3.9

TIDES AT FULFORD HARBOUR (Pacific Standard Time)

	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.	Time H.M.	Ht. Ft.
10	00.08	7.4	05.25	9.9	12.15	3.6	19.39	10.1
11	00.44	7.8	05.48	9.8	12.47	3.5	20.25	10.2
12	01.28	8.2	06.14	9.7	13.23	3.5	21.14	10.2
13	02.21	8.6	06.40	9.5	14.03	3.6	22.08	10.2
14	03.28	8.8	07.14	9.3	14.49	3.8	23.07	10.2
15	04.50	8.8	07.59	9.1	15.42	4.0	.....	.....
16	00.01	10.3	08.09	8.5	09.05	8.8	16.40	4.2
17	00.48	10.4	07.02	8.1	10.37	8.6	17.42	4.4
18	01.27	10.5	07.49	7.4	12.12	8.6	18.42	4.7
19	02.00	10.7	08.17	6.5	13.39	8.9	19.38	5.1

Few Hours After Birth

Baby's Life Saved By Blood Change

A life-saving "exchange of blood" operation was performed last night on a newly-born infant rushed from St. Joseph's Hospital, Comox, to Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria.

Doctors said the exchange was necessary because the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Blackburn of Courtenay was born with RH positive blood containing anti-bodies from RH negative blood of the mother and unable to combat them.

The baby faced the danger of brain damage, they said.

His own blood was exchanged for Group O, RH negative blood donated by Michael Mirams-Harrison, 2573 Cavendish, in answer to a hurry-up Red Cross call.

The infant was born at 1.15 p.m. in the Comox hospital and the operation at Royal Jubilee was carried out at 9 p.m.

The Red Cross is currently appealing for $79,000 to help maintain their blood transfusion service along with other activities.

Ontario Dilemma

Illegal Bylaws Rap on Door Of Legislature

TORONTO (CP)—An emergency session of the Ontario legislature was suggested Thursday as the only way to legalize thousands of municipal zoning bylaws throughout Ontario.

The session was called for by Metropolitan Toronto Chairman Frederick Gardiner and supported by Lorne Cumming, chairman of the Ontario municipal board.

The request followed confirmation from Ontario legislature sources that a recent Supreme Court of Canada decision made invalid zoning bylaw amendments and repeals passed by Ontaio municipalities between 1941 and March 21, 1958.

School Board Autonomy 'Whittled Away'

Socred Education Policies Called 'Dictating, Arbitrary'

KELOWNA (CP)—The provincial government's education policy was described as "dictating" and "arbitrary" Thursday in a brief to the Chant royal commission on education.

Fred Macklin, secretary of the District 23 school board, used the terms in reference to the education department's action in not informing school boards before budgets are drawn up of any changes made by the government in costs shared by the government.

"Autonomy of boards has been whittled away," he said in the brief. "There is more central control from Victoria than was visualized in the Cameron report and more control than is apparent in a cursory glance through the Public Schools Act.

"The boards are to a large extent controlled by the financial policies of the government."

The brief said school boards are in the "curious position of receiving funds on behalf of the local taxpayers and yet having to acount to the department of education for those funds rather than to the local taxpayer."

"Why not, having established the government's share, allow the boards to apportion their monies between the various sections of the budget, with flexibility to vary the amounts as local conditions warrant?" Mr. Macklin asked.

Last year volunteers of the Canadian Cancer Society made and distributed free millions of cancer dressings.

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